

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-35. (Cancelled)

36. (previously entered) A *E. coli* host cell comprising

- (i) a genetic alteration inactivating the *glnL* gene;
- (ii) a nucleic acid sequence comprising a coding sequence encoding a phosphoenol pyruvate synthetase (pps) and an operably linked *glnAp2* promoter that is regulated by *ntrC* and acetyl phosphate; and
- (iii) nucleic acid sequences encoding a geranylgeranyl diphosphate synthase, a phytoene synthase, and a phytoene desaturase.

37. (previously entered) The host cell of claim 36 further comprising a nucleic acid sequence that expresses isopentenyl diphosphate isomerase.

38. (previously entered) The host cell of claim 37 wherein the nucleic acid sequence that expresses isopentenyl diphosphate isomerase is operably linked to a *glnAp2* promoter.

39. (previously entered) The host cell of claim 36 wherein the host cell can produce lycopene.

40. (previously entered) The host cell of claim 39 wherein the host cell can produce greater than 5 mg L<sup>-1</sup> lycopene.

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Page : 3 of 4

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41 – 52. (cancelled)